

In the Matter of

Petition for Rulemaking to Eliminate the Sports Blackout Rule

I am in complete agreement with the PETITION FOR RULEMAKING submitted to the Federal Communications Commission, which states in part:

“At a time of persistently high unemployment, sluggish economic growth, and consumer uncertainty, the Sports Blackout Rule supports blatantly anti-fan, anti-consumer behavior by professional sports leagues.

The leagues often require a game to be blacked out from broadcast television if tickets to the game have not sold out. The Commission then perpetuates the problem by requiring other TV distributors also to black out the game.

The leagues are at the root of the problem because they currently charge exorbitant prices for tickets, which in turn results in lower attendance. The leagues then punish fans by blacking out games from television because a few seats remain unsold.

The Commission should not be propping up this anti-consumer behavior through the Sports Blackout Rule, particularly in such difficult economic times.”

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